AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 7. (Canceled)

8. (New) A surface-coated cemented carbide alloy cutting tool comprising a hard coating layer and a cemented carbide alloy substrate, the hard coating layer comprising:

a Ti compound layer, as a lower layer, formed by vapor deposition, having an average thickness of 0.5 to 20 μm, said Ti compound layer comprising at least one layer selected from the group consisting of a layer of a carbide of Ti, a layer of a nitride of Ti, a layer of a carbonitride of Ti, and a layer of a carbonitroxide of Ti; and

an aluminum oxide layer having an average thickness of 1 to 25 μm, said aluminum oxide layer having a heat transformed α-type crystal structure derived from a vapor deposited κ- or θ-type aluminum oxide layer and having an X-ray diffraction peak ratio of 0.1 or more, said X-ray diffraction peak ratio being a ratio of a peak intensity of a (006) plane, I(006), to a peak intensity of a (113) plane, I(113).